

Reading Suggestions From Wapiti Regional Library
Grade Nine Reading List

Title: The Art of Keeping Cool

Author: Lisle, Janet Taylor

Description: In 1942, Robert and his cousin Elliot uncover long-hidden family secrets while staying in their grandparents' Rhode Island town, where they also become involved with a German artist who is suspected of being a spy.

Title: Best Shot in the West: The Adventures of Nat Love

Author: McKissack, Patricia C.; McKissack, Fredrick L.; DuBurke,

Description: Describes, in graphic novel format, the life of Nat Love, also known as Deadwood Dick, who grew up to become the most famous African-American cowboy in the Old West.

Title: Beyond Courage: The Untold Story of Jewish Resistance During the Holocaust

Author: Rappaport, Doreen

Description: Twenty-one accounts of Jewish defiance during World War II.

Title: A Blood Red Horse

Author: Grant, K. M.

Description: Two brothers are called by King Richard to fight in the Crusades. They are bound together by a special horse and a girl they both love.

Title: A Bone from a Dry Sea

Author: Dickinson, Peter

Description: In two parallel stories, a young female member of a prehistoric tribe becomes instrumental in advancing her people, and a present-day girl visits her paleontologist father on a dig in Africa where they discover important fossil remains.

Title: The Boy in the Black Suit

Author: Reynolds, Jason

Description: Soon after his mother's death, Matt takes a job at a funeral home in his tough Brooklyn neighborhood and, while attending and assisting with funerals, begins to accept her death and his responsibilities as a man.

Title: The Caged Graves

Author: Salerni, Dianne K

Description: Returning to her hometown of Catawissa, Pennsylvania, in 1867 to marry a man she has never met, seventeen-year-old Verity Boone gets caught up in the a mystery surrounding the graves of her mother and aunt and a dangerous hunt for Revolutionary-era gold.

Title: Cinder

Author: Meyer, Marissa

Description: As plague ravages the overcrowded Earth, observed by a ruthless lunar people, Cinder, a gifted mechanic and cyborg, becomes involved with handsome Prince Kai and must uncover secrets about her past in order to protect the world in this futuristic take on the Cinderella story.

Title: A Confusion of Princes

Author: Nix, Garth

Description: Battling aliens, space pirates, and competitors, Prince Khemri meets a young woman, named Raine, and learns more than he expected about the hidden workings of a vast, intergalactic Empire, and about himself.

Title: Day of Tears: A Novel in Dialogue

Author: Lester, Julius

Description: When gambling debts and greed enter into the Butler household, Pierce Butler decides to host the biggest slave auction in American history.

Title: Dead Girls Don't Write Letters

Author: Giles, Gail

Description: Fourteen-year-old Sunny is stunned when a total stranger shows up at her house posing as her older sister Jazz, who supposedly died out of town in a fire months earlier.

Title: Drawing from Memory

Author: Say, Allen (Author, Illustrator)

Description: Caldecott Medalist Allen Say presents a stunning graphic novel chronicling his journey as an artist during WWII, when he apprenticed under Noro Shinpei, Japan's premier cartoonist.

Title: Enchantress from the Stars

Author: Engdahl, Sylvia; Lowry, Lois (Foreword by)

Description: Elana arrives on primitive planet Andrecia to study its society, but soon becomes involved in saving it from invasion.

Title: Enthusiasm

Author: Shulman, Polly

Description: Julie and Ashleigh, high school sophomores and Jane Austen fans, seem to fall for the same Mr. Darcy-like boy and struggle to hide their true feelings from one another while rehearsing for a school musical.

Title: Eve and Adam

Author: Grant, Michael; Applegate, Katherine

Description: While recuperating after a car accident in Spiker Biotech's lush San Francisco facilities, sixteen-year-old Evening Spiker meets Solo Plissken, a very attractive, if off-putting boy her age who spent his life at Spiker Biotech. Like Evening, he's never questioned anything ... until now.

Title: The False Prince

Author: Nielsen, Jennifer A.

Description: In the country of Carthya, a devious nobleman engages four orphans in a brutal competition to be selected to impersonate the king's long-missing son in an effort to avoid a civil war.

Title: Five Flavors of Dumb

Author: John, Antony

Description: Piper becomes the manager for her classmates' popular rock band, called Dumb, giving her the chance to prove her capabilities to her parents and others, if only she can get the band members to get along.

Title: Hattie Big Sky

Author: Larson, Kirby

Description: Alone in the world, teenaged Hattie is driven to prove up on her uncle's homesteading claim.

Title: How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous

Author: Bragg, Georgia; O'Malley, Kevin

Description: A look at the deaths of several famous people throughout history and the circumstances surrounding those deaths.

Title: Immersed in Verse: An Informative, Slightly Irreverent & Totally Tremendous Guide to Living the Poet's Life

Author: Mourning, Tuesday (Illustrator); Wolf, Allan

Description: Contains advice, ideas, writing activities, and encouragement from a working poet for aspiring poets. Includes poems by a variety of poets from the unknown to the famous, including Langston Hughes, e.e. cummings, Eve Merriam, and more.

Title: Into the Wild

Author: Krakauer, Jon

Description: Chris McCandless abandons everything to experience life in the Alaskan wilderness.

Title: Jepp, Who Defied the Stars

Author: Marsh, Katherine

Description: Jepp, a teenage dwarf living in 16th century Europe, leaves home to seek his destiny.

Title: The Legend of Bass Reeves

Author: Paulsen, Gary

Description: An account of the life of Bass Reeves, federal marshal.

Title: Lost in the River of Grass

Author: Rorby, Ginny

Description: When two Florida teenagers become stranded on a tiny island in the Everglades, they attempt to walk ten miles through swampland to reach civilization.

Title: The Lucy Variations

Author: Zarr, Sara

Description: Sixteen-year-old San Franciscan Lucy Beck-Moreau once had a promising future as a concert pianist. Her chance at a career has passed, and she decides to help her ten-year-old piano prodigy brother, Gus, map out his own future, even as she explores why she enjoyed piano in the first place.

Title: March

Author: Brooks, Geraldine

Description: (Fiction, 2006) Brooks shares the untold story of Father March from Louisa May Alcott's "Little Women" as he joins other Union soldiers in the Civil War.

Title: Marching for Freedom: Walk Together, Children, and Don't You Grow Weary

Author: Partridge, Elizabeth

Description: This book recounts the three months of protest that took place before Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s landmark march from Selma, Alabama, to Montgomery to promote equal rights and help African-Americans earn the right to vote.

Title: The Naming

Author: Croggon, Alison

Description: A manuscript from the lost civilization of Edil-Amarandah chronicles the experiences of sixteen-year-old Maerad, an orphan gifted in the magic and power of the Bards, as she escapes from

slavery and begins to learn how to use her Gift to stave off the evil Darkness that threatens to consume her world.

Title: Nevermore: A Photobiography of Edgar Allan Poe

Author: Lange, Karen

Description: This intriguing photobiography examines the life and times of the author and poet who would have a huge influence on future generations of writers, poets, artists, and even songwriters. Poe pioneered the psychological horror story, the detective story, and the emerging genre of science fiction.

Title: The Omnivore's Dilemma: The Secrets Behind What You Eat

Author: Pollan, Michael; Chevat, Richie (Adapted by)

Description: In a smart, compelling format with updated facts, plenty of photos, graphs, and visuals, this book encourages kids to consider the personal and global health implications of their food choices.

Title: Passion Blue

Author: Strauss, Victoria

Description: With no other option in fifteenth-century Italy, Giulia joins a convent, where she becomes an artist's apprentice.

Title: Pop

Author: Korman, Gordon

Description: Lonely after a midsummer move to a new town, sixteen-year-old high-school quarterback Marcus Jordan becomes friends with a retired professional linebacker who is great at training him, but whose childish behavior keeps Marcus in hot water.

Title: The Running Dream

Author: Van Draanen, Wendelin

Description: When a school bus accident leaves sixteen-year-old Jessica an amputee, she returns to school with a prosthetic limb and her track team finds a wonderful way to help rekindle her dream of running again.

Title: The Scorpio Races

Author: Stiefvater, Maggie

Description: Nineteen-year-old returning champion Sean Kendrick competes against Puck Connolly, the first girl ever to ride in the annual Scorpio Races, both trying to keep hold of their dangerous water horses long enough to make it to the finish line.

Title: Seize the Story: A Handbook for Teens Who Like to Write

Author: Hanley, Victoria

Description: Offers advice to teenaged authors on the techniques of originating, developing, and editing fiction; profiles successful teen authors; and answers common questions about the writing process.

Title: Shadowshaper

Author: Older, Daniel José

Description: When the murals painted on the walls of her Brooklyn neighborhood start to change and fade in front of her, Sierra Santiago realizes that something strange is going on. Then she discovers that her Puerto Rican family are shadowshapers, and she finds herself in a battle with an evil anthropologist for the lives of her family and friends.

Title: "The President Has Been Shot!": The Assassination of John F. Kennedy

Author: Swanson, James L.

Description: Recounts the 35th president's assassination and details key events while sharing informative back matter and archival photographs.

Title: Toads and Diamonds

Author: Tomlinson, Heather

Description: A retelling of the Perrault fairy tale set in pre-colonial India, in which two stepsisters receive gifts from a goddess and each walks her own path to find her gift's purpose, discovering romance along the way.

Title: The Traitors' Gate

Author: Avi; Raude, Karina (Illustrator)

Description: When his father is arrested as a debtor in 1849 London, fourteen-year-old John Huffam must take on unexpected responsibilities, from asking a distant relative for help to determining why people are spying on him and his family.

Title: Trash

Author: Mulligan, Andy

Description: Fourteen-year-olds Raphael and Gardo team up with a younger boy, Rat, to figure out the mysteries surrounding a bag Raphael finds during their daily life of sorting through trash in a third-world country's dump.

Title: Under the Mesquite

Author: McCall, Guadalupe Garcia

Description: Throughout her high school years, as her mother battles cancer, Lupita takes on more responsibility for her house and seven younger siblings, while finding refuge in acting and writing poetry.

Title: Warrior Girl: A Novel of Joan of Arc

Author: Chandler, Pauline

Description: Although surrounded by treachery, Mariane, a young mute, battles alongside her cousin, Joan of Arc, for the liberation of France from the English.

Title: What the World Eats

Author: D'Aluisio, Faith; Menzel, Peter (Author, Photographer)

Description: A photographic collection exploring what the world eats, featuring portraits of twenty-five families from twenty-one countries surrounded by a week's worth of food.

Title: Zooborns: The Next Generation--Newer, Cuter, More Exotic Animals From the World's Zoos and Aquariums

Author: Bleiman, Andrew

Description: Features full-color photos and fascinating facts on exotic baby animals from every corner of the world.

Title: Hot Pterodactyl Boyfriend

Author: Cumyn, Alan

Description: Prepare to be blown away—or rather, carried away on huge muscular wings—by this blissfully outlandish, bracingly-smart, tour de force about a teen who has to come to terms with relinquishing control for the first time as she falls for the hot new...pterodactyl...at school. After all, everybody wants him! Shiels is very pleased with her perfectly controlled life (controlling others while she's at it). She's smart, powerful, the Student Body Chair, and she even has a loving boyfriend. What more could a girl ask for? But everything changes when the first-ever interspecies transfer student, a pterodactyl named Pyke, enrolls at her school.

Title: Don't Tell, Don't Tell, Don't Tell

Author: Shaw, Liane

Description: Frederick has a lot of rules for himself—like if someone calls him Freddy, he doesn't have to answer them, and he only wears shirts with buttons. But when his friend Angel—his only friend—goes missing and he is questioned by the police, he doesn't have a rule for that. Friendship is a new concept for Frederick, so when Angel asked him to keep a secret no matter what, he agreed. But do the rules of friendship apply when your friend is missing?

Title: The Nest

Author: Opper, Kenneth

Description: For some kids summer is a sun-soaked season of fun. But for Steve, it's just another season of worries. Worries about his sick newborn baby brother who is fighting to survive, worries about his parents who are struggling to cope, even worries about the wasp's nest looming ominously from the eaves. So when a mysterious wasp queen invades his dreams, offering to "fix" the baby, Steve thinks his prayers have been answered. All he has to do is say "Yes." But "yes" is a powerful word. It is also a dangerous one. And once it is uttered, can it be taken back?

Title: Two Solitudes

Author: MacLennan, Hugh

Description: The powerful saga of Athanase Tallard, the son of an aristo-cratic French-Canadian tradition, of Kathleen, his beautiful Irish wife, and of their son Paul, who struggles to establish a balance in himself and in the country he calls home.